

**Remarks**

1. The Claims are amended to reflect 3 major unique characteristics of a smart hard-disk drive (sHDD):

- A) **SHARED STORAGE**. The sHDD capacity has far exceeded the storage requirement from any single multimedia application (e.g. 1.8" HDD now can store 40GB). To be more efficiently used, this capacity is preferably shared by a plurality of multimedia applications (i.e. a head-disk assembly for storing data for at least two types of multimedia devices, Claim 1);
- B) **SHARED INTERFACE**. If different interfaces were used in different multimedia devices, it would be difficult for the sHDD to support multiple devices due to complicated interface design. Only when multimedia devices share a common interface (e.g. USB), will the sHDD interface design become feasible (i.e. an interface block for connecting said sHDD to any one of said at least two types of multimedia devices, Claim 1);
- C) **DIRECT COMMUNICATION**. To be truly portable, data transfer between the sHDD and multimedia device needs to be direct, i.e. without using a computer as an intermediary (i.e. communication means for directly transferring data between said head-disk assembly and a selected one of said at least two types of multimedia devices through said interface block, Claim 1).

2. The claims 1-45 have been replaced by new claims 46-80. To facilitate examination of the present invention, the figure(s) corresponding to each amended independent claim are listed below:

- Claim 46,      Fig. 2A, Fig. 4A
- Claim 62,      Fig. 2A, Fig. 4A
- Claim 67,      Fig. 2A, Fig. 4A

Claim 72, Figs. 12A-12C

Claim 74, Figs. 17-18

Claim 78, Figs. 5A-5D

Very respectfully,



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